

## Accessing the Internet

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- In addition to the hardware that we have mentioned so far, you need a modem to access the Internet. Most new computers have internal modems built in.
- Know your modem speed. The speed of your modem will determine how fast pages load while surfing and how fast you can download programs and email.
- Make sure your modem has a connection speed of at least 56k. The highest speeds available right now to personal users is with DSL or Cable, but due to the higher cost and/or limited availability, many people find it is for them.



### INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER (ISP)

- Most people access the Internet through Internet Service Providers (ISPs). Several major ISPs and thousands of local access providers provide online services throughout the United States.
- In most locations, you can now access their service with a local telephone call. Make sure to use a local access number to connect to avoid unnecessary long distance charges.
- If you travel with a laptop and need to access the Internet while away, be sure to find a provider that has local numbers in the destinations you travel to on a regular basis. Also find out if you can access more than one dial-up number without extra charges or fees.



Don't overpay for your Internet service.

***Handout provided giving names and web sites of local access providers along with recently advertised prices from research online....SHOP AROUND.***